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Photo: New Mexico State Soil Penistaja

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Summer 2014

## Pathways Interns Leave Their Mark on NRCS New Mexico

# “Fantastic Four” Are Impressive

There is a new “Fantastic Four” on the scene. They are not in Hollywood but they certainly do shine brightly in New Mexico.

Four interns of the Pathways Program in New Mexico successfully completed their terms for this summer.

Two of them will graduate in December from their respective universities and will pursue full-time careers with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in New Mexico.

The “Fantastic Four” are comprised of Amy Chavez, senior at New Mexico State University (NMSU); Taylor Atwood, senior at West Texas A&M University; Jessica Yates, junior at NMSU; and Hannah Stevens, junior at Oklahoma State University.

The Pathways Program aims to offer employment opportunities with NRCS to students ranging from high school to the post-graduate level. These internships are offered to students studying agricultural and natural resources-related fields such as plant pathology, agronomy,



**The NRCS New Mexico “Fantastic Four”**

Completing their Pathways Programs internship with the NRCS New Mexico for the summer are (left to right) Jessica Yates, Taylor Atwood, Hannah Stevens and Amy Chavez. Atwood and Chavez graduate this year and start their NRCS careers in January 2015.

Yates and Stevens are juniors and will come on board with NRCS New Mexico in January 2016. **(Photo by Rey T. Adame)**

omy, range science, soil science, forestry, ecology, botany, biology, civil and agricultural engineering. Chavez will be assigned as a Civil Engineer with the **(Continue “Fantastic Four” on page 4.)**

**Thanks for all you do!**

# *We Are Successful Because of You*

**by J. Xavier Montoya  
State Conservationist**

Time flies when you're having fun – or so they say. For all of us at NRCS, time seems to travel at warp speed, especially this past fiscal year.

The Congressional and Departmental approval of the New Mexico of the Future plan in late 2013 gave way to the implementation of the Plan which began this January. Fortunately, we had some time for our folks to understand how things would change in the way we operate in New Mexico. I know it was, and still is, a monumental impact for some of you but it affected all of us. I appreciate your patience in waiting for the approval process to go through the various channels and your diligence in carrying it out.

Of course, there was the 2014 Farm Bill which was signed into law by the President in February. The 2014 Farm Bill was applauded by most in the agricultural community across the country. The Farm Bill had some significant changes and provided us with new challenges and opportunities. The fact that it became law into the second quarter of the fiscal year meant we had to accelerate the process of introducing the new programs to our customers and encouraging them to benefit from these programs.

I want to take a moment to discuss the positive contributions of our Farm Bill specialists and volunteers assigned to the various offices across New Mexico. Folks, it is impossible to accurately gauge the full impact they make but I consider it priceless. They help bridge the gaps of employees joining and leaving our organization; they help provide stability to our offices and Teams. I cannot thank them enough for all they do.



To our partners, I offer special thanks. We would not have the successful working relationships with the agricultural producers of New Mexico without your help in extending our mission of "Helping People Help the Land."

Folks, I know we are busy with the pace of work and life, but I ask you to take time to spend with your family, do something fun and remember why it is we are all dedicated to our careers.

Finally, we are getting close to the end of another Fiscal Year and I am cautiously optimistic that we will not have the same issues we had at the start of this Fiscal Year, we should have a Continuing Resolution passed soon.

Let me end by once again saying Thank You! Thank you for all you do for conservation, but especially for all the people of our wonderful Land of Enchantment. You provide future generations with hope and promise of keeping this country agriculturally sound through your commitment to get conservation on the ground. You all make me so proud to be your state conservationist!



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## **Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey**

# We're Listening to You

Many of you participated in the Federal Employees Viewpoint Survey a few weeks ago. What you had to say resonates loud and clear.

Our State Conservationist (STC), Xavier Montoya wants to hear even more from you. Each of our 11 Teams is scheduled to take part in a Listening Session. The sessions are designed for the NRCS New Mexico Leadership Team to listen to what is important to each of you.

The STC requires the Leadership Teams to visit with all of their employees to hear what is on their minds. To address employee concerns, ideas to improve the agency, or issues relevant to their workplace we have categorized topics

into five major areas:

(1) *Workplace environment*; (2) *Communication*; (3) *Training*; (4) *Equipment*; and (5) *What to do with new ideas*. The Listening Sessions will be consolidated

and a composite report will be sent out by the STC to all employees. A public mailbox will also be created for employees to be able to convey their concerns about their work re-

lated issues directly to the state conservationist.

Everyone will be notified when the report is complete and when the public mailbox is operational.

Date	Tea	Location	Time	NMLT Mem-
August 21	5	Mountainair	10:00 am	Rey Adame
September 15	2	Cuba	10:00 am	Rick Strait
September 16	10	Roswell	1:00 pm	Tommy Marshall
September 17	9	Las Cruces	9:00 am	Rosabeth Garcia-
September 17	11	Portales	10:00 am	Tommy Marshall
September 30	7	Deming	9:00 am	Rey Adame
October 2	8	Socorro	10:00 am	Brian Schwabke
October 2	3	Santa Fe	10:00 am	Rosabeth Garcia-
October 6	1	Crownpoint	10:30 am	Rick Strait
October 7	6	Roy	9:30 am	Brian Schwabke
October 15	4	Las Vegas	10:00 am	Cliff Sanchez

## **Fax machines are out, Fax2Mail is the new process**

Fax2Mail is ready to implement in all New Mexico offices. This will replace all fax machines and instead allow faxes to be sent and received electronically. Please take a few minutes to review the attached User Guide. Also, ITS will be working with each office on the new process. New toll free numbers will replace all current fax line numbers.

**Please share the new fax numbers with your customers.** For NRCS New Mexico, there will be a total of 8 accounts as follows:

**North Area will have one Fax2Mail account.** All faxes to anyone in the North Area, including Soils, should be sent to 855-538-5999. Doreen Padilla, District Conservationists, and MLRA Leaders will be notified when faxes are received. They, in turn, will forward to the appropriate recipient. Employees that need to send a fax must do so through one of these individuals.

**South Area will have one account per team:**  
Lordsburg, Deming, Silver City - 855-538-5997

Socorro, Datil, Carrizozo - 855-538-6002

Las Cruces, T or C, Alamogordo - 877-450-0861

Lovington, Carlsbad, Roswell - 855-538-5998

Portales, Clovis - 855-538-6001

Every employee within the teams will be able to send/receive faxes through their respective accounts.

**State Office employees will have two accounts.** The Main account will be 855-538-6003. The Los Lunas NRCS office will also use this number. Theresa Bennett, Kelley Mullen, and Chrishelle Jackson will be notified when faxes are received. Employees that need to send a fax will have to do so through one of these individuals.

The second account 855-543-7864, is for Administration (ADS, FNM, and HR). Alan King, Donna Tatum, and Rosabeth Garcia-Sais will be notified when faxes come in and will forward to the appropriate recipient. Administration employees that need to send a fax will go through one of these employees.





***“Fantastic Four” continuation from Page 1.)***

NRCS Roswell Field Office. Atwood will begin working as a Soil Conservationist with the NRCS Truth or Consequences Field Office. Both begin their permanent full-time employment in January 2015 after they graduate in December 2014.

Chavez will earn her Bachelors of Science degree in Civil Engineering from New Mexico State University (NMSU). She completed her last Pathways Program assignment in the Roswell Field Office where she worked with Patrick Fox, NRCS New Mexico's South Area Civil Engineer Technician. “Amy's strong traits are that she is a fast learner; pays close attention when learning a new task; asks questions when she doesn't understand clearly; and retains new information very well,” explains Fox. “She is very enjoyable to be around and work with, and with a little more training she will be a big asset to NRCS.”

Atwood will earn a Bachelors of Science degree in Plant, Soil & Environmental Science (Minor Biology) from West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas. She spent her most recent internship with the NRCS Los Lunas Field Office. Pearl Armijo, District Conservationist for Team 2 which includes the Los Lunas office, offered words of encouragement: “During your internship, you experienced some highs and lows. There will be times when you question everything [that] you've learned so far... Be brave. Take risks. Nothing can substitute experience.”

Jessica Yates is working toward her Bachelors of Science degree in Rangeland Resources from NMSU. She recently completed her internship working with the NRCS Alamogordo Field Office. District Conservationist Adrian Tafoya oversees three field offices – one of them is the Alamogordo office. “Jess Yates' performance during her Pathways detail in Alamogordo was outstanding,” says Tafoya. “Jess was able to acquire knowledge that will assist her throughout her next pathway's assignment and career with NRCS.

She was instrumental in assisting the Alamogordo NRCS staff in obligating FY 2014 program funds and providing technical assistance to their agriculture producers.” Jessica will work with the NRCS Grants Field Office next summer.

Hannah Stevens is pursuing her Bachelors of Science degree in Rangeland Ecology & Management from Oklahoma State University in Overbrook, Oklahoma. Hannah completed her first Pathways Internship opportunity

in the NRCS Raton Field Office.



Her

supervisor during her summer internship praised her for her work. “Hannah Stevens will be a great asset to both New Mexico NRCS and the Range profession,” said Kenneth Alcon, District Conservationist for the Raton, Mora and Las Vegas field offices.

She will resume her Pathways Program by working next summer in the NRCS Tucumcari Field Office.

***NRCS New Mexico plans to hire six additional interns for the summer of 2015 in the areas of rangeland management, soil conservation, and agronomy.***

***Interested freshmen and sophomore college students majoring in these fields should look for announcement postings on USAJobs.***



*Each year special days are set aside to celebrate and honor the diversity of the USDA workforce and to expose employees to the importance of different peoples and cultures.*

Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack, has always been a strong supporter of Diversity in the USDA. “A diverse workforce is critical for any organization that seeks to improve and maintain a competitive advantage. Focusing on diversity and looking for ways to achieve an inclusive environment is not just a ‘nice to have’ objective: it makes good business sense.

*A diverse workforce offers greater productivity and a competitive edge. Diversity improves the quality of our workforce and offers a higher return on our investment in human capital. USDA's future depends on the quality of employees we recruit today."*

*This year's Diversity Day for the North Area was held June 12th, at the Albuquerque State Office. Employees from NRCS, FSA, APHIS and RD attended a first-class event hosting presentations, food sampling, and lunch provided by the Employee's Club. Specialists on the subjects of Hungarian culture, Disability Awareness and Mexican Folk Medicine delighted audience members with their experiences. The event also included a photo contest to showcase our employee's artistic abilities (see photo on Page 12). About 100 people were in attendance.*

*The South Area held their Diversity Day in conjunction with the South*

*Area All Employees Meeting in Truth or Consequences on August 27th.*

*Hosting over 70 NRCS employees in attendance the South Area Diversity Day included speaker Erasmo Valles from Operation Warfighter, a Veterans organization which helps place veterans in government related internships.*

*After the Operation Warfighter brief attendees listened to an interesting historical lecture on the Camino Real by Troy M. Ainsworth, Ph.D. from the El Camino Real de Tierra Adaptor Trail Association (CARTA).*

*Finally the South Area Diversity Day was concluded with a 45 minute performance by the “On Call” local bluegrass band from Truth or Consequences.*

## ***What is the Purpose behind the Civil Rights Advisory Committee?***

Many perhaps wonder what the Civil Rights Advisory Committee (CRAC) does besides have quarterly meetings every year. Some may think that it is a club that might occasionally hold events at a whim or just a break from the usual. The CRAC represents neither of these stereotypes. In fact, the CRAC is both a recognized and mandated board within the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

The CRAC advises management of issues and initiates training related to civil rights. Since the committee represents individuals from all disciplines in non-managerial roles, it offers perspective that perhaps may be missed by management. The role of CRAC is to communicate to NRCS leadership any way that it can fully capture the objectives of civil rights reforms and initiatives to greater fulfill the mission of the agency. When CRAC is able to communicate effectively with management,

it is capable of affecting various initiatives and efforts within its organization meant to strengthen the image of the agency's commitment to civil rights.

The CRAC can be a very effective tool in addressing issues. The goal for the CRAC is one of prevention and facilitation. A well-functioning committee will be able to develop appreciation and mindfulness in the workplace that reinforces the organization's workers. Everyone should be excited to participate in CRAC because it is about all employees and the future path for the agency.

CRAC can have a significant effect on ensuring that future path is both acceptable and comfortable. CRAC is an engaging way for everyone to be involved in things that matter.





# National Prevention Strategy

The National Prevention Strategy, released June 16, 2011, aims to guide our nation in the most effective and achievable means for improving health and well-being. The Strategy prioritizes prevention by integrating recommendations and actions across multiple settings to improve health and save lives.

Engaging in regular physical activity is one of the most important things that people of all ages can do to improve their health. Physical activity strengthens bones and muscles, reduces stress and depression, and makes it easier to maintain a healthy body weight or to reduce weight if overweight or obese. Even people who do not lose weight get substantial benefits from regular physical activity, including lower rates of high blood pressure, diabetes, and cancer. Healthy physical activity includes aerobic exercise, muscle strengthening workouts, and movements to increase balance and flexibility. As described by the Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans, adults should engage in at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity activity each week, and children and teenagers should engage in at least one hour of activity each day.

## Recommendations:

1. Encourage community design and development that supports physical activity.
2. Promote and strengthen school and early learning policies and

programs that increase physical activity.

3. Facilitate access to safe, accessible, and affordable places for physical activity.
4. Support workplace policies and programs that increase physical activity.
5. Assess physical activity levels and provide education, counseling, and referrals.

## What Can State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Governments Do?

- Design safe neighborhoods that encourage physical activity (e.g., include sidewalks, bike lanes, adequate lighting, multi-use trails, walkways, and parks).
- Convene partners (e.g., urban planners, architects, engineers, developers, transportation, law enforcement, public health) to consider health impacts when making transportation or land use decisions.
- Support schools and early learning centers in meeting physical activity guidelines.

## What Can Businesses and Employers Do?

- Adopt policies and programs that promote walking, bicycling, and use of public transportation (e.g., provide access to fitness equipment and facilities, bicycle racks, walking paths, and changing facilities with showers).

## What Can Individuals, Families Do?

- Engage in at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity activity each week (adults) or at least one hour of activity each day (children).
- Supplement aerobic activities with muscle strengthening activities on two or more days a week that involve all major muscle groups.

Consider following the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommendations for limiting TV time among children.

## For more information, visit:

<http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/initiatives/prevention/strategy/>  
[#NationalPreventionStrategy](#)  
**Resources**



## Her Great Work with NRCS Continues

Troy Hood, Farm Bill Placement Officer for the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts, surprises Grace Phillips of the Tucumcari NRCS Field Office with her 10-Year Service Award for her work as a Farm Bill Specialist. Phillips previously worked for nearly 32 years with USDA as a program and administrative assistant. "She brings invaluable experience and expertise to the field office," said Rachel Armstrong, Team 6 District Conservationist. **(Photo by Linda Hood)**



## NRCS Moves Three Offices to New Sites

The USDA Services Centers in Las Cruces, Mountainair and Roswell are operating in new locations.

*USDA Service Center  
760 Stern Drive  
Las Cruces, NM 88011*



*USDA/NRCS Field Office  
1206 South Highway 55  
Mountainair, NM 87036*



*USDA Service Center  
300 N Pennsylvania Ave  
Roswell, NM 88203-7156*





# NRCS Chief Weller

## Visits New Mexico

### Meets with ag producers and employees to learn of issues important to New Mexicans

NRCS Chief Jason Weller visited New Mexico earlier this summer to see first-hand the challenges facing New Mexico agricultural producers.

Chief Weller met with representatives of the Navajo Agricultural Production Industry (NAPI) in Farmington; the Gallina Acequia near Cuba; and the people of the Santo Domingo Pueblo.

The Chief was briefed by Gilbert Borrego, civil engineering technician whose primary role is to work and design acequia projects in the state; and Jean Foster, soil conservation technician who was the principal liaison for the irrigation improvement project at the Santo Domingo Pueblo. The Chief was impressed with the solid and well-respected relationship NRCS New Mexico has with its producers, partners and customers.



**(Top)** Chief Weller listens as he is briefed on acequia history and culture. **(Center)** Levi Sanchez, Board president of the Gallina Acequia, shares with the Chief the significance of the Gallina Acequia project. **(Bottom)** Richard Bonine, NAPI Operations Manager, Xavier Montoya and Chief Weller pause outside NAPI headquarters.







**(Top)** Gilbert Borrego briefs Chief Weller and NRCS New Mexico State Conservationist Xavier Montoya on the Gallina Acequia project.

**(Center)** Chief Weller (center) sees the positive impact of the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program work on fields at the Santo Domingo Pueblo. Santo Domingo Pueblo Governor Oscar K. Lovato (right) and Everett Chavez (left), Santo Domingo Pueblo project liaison, praise Chief Weller and NRCS for their assistance.

**(Left)** Santo Domingo Pueblo Lieutenant Governor Avelino J. Calabaza thanks Chief Weller for visiting the Pueblo and listening to Pueblo leaders and citizens as they were able to share their appreciation of his visit and of the NRCS support.

**(Photos by Rey T. Adame)**

# Get 'er 'DUNS' on sam.gov by end of FY 2014

The NRCS reminds everyone that all entities must have a Dun and Brad-



street Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and have a current System for Award Management (SAM) account on [sam.gov](http://sam.gov) prior to obligating a contract or making a payment to them, (this does not apply to individuals-only entities) said Cliff Sanchez, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs in the NRCS New Mexico State Office.

These requirements are specified in National Bulletin 440-14-13 "Reminder of Program Participant Entity Registration and Reporting Requirements;" as well as National Instruction 120-1354 "Instruction and Guidance for Verification of Current Entity Central Contractor Registration on the System for Award management (SAM.gov) Prior to Making Obligations and Payments."

A DUNS number and registering with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) on SAM.gov is required for all non-individual (entity) applicants prior to obligation. The CCR registration **must be renewed at least once every 12 months to remain valid and to be eligible to receive a program payment.**

These requirements are mandated by the Federal Funding Accounta-

bility and Transparency Act (the Transparency Act), and implemented through the Office of Management and Budget regulations at 2 CFR Part 25. It is the program applicant's responsibility to take all required actions. Since implementation of these requirements went into effect on October 1, 2010, false eligibility certifications and

expired entity registrations have resulted in a large number of improper payments. Preemptive actions must be taken to reduce these occurrences. Effective as of the date of publication of NI 120-354, awarding program benefits without verification of entity registration status on SAM.gov is prohibited.

Small Business Administration Help Have this Completed First!	System for Award Management Then Complete This
<p>These are the step by step instruction <u>with hyperlinks</u> to the right websites.</p> <p><b>Small Business Administration</b>  <a href="http://www.sba.gov/content/register-government-contracting">http://www.sba.gov/content/register-government-contracting</a></p> <p><b>Basically:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Obtain a D-U-N-S Number (free of charge!)</li> <li>2. Register your Business with the System of Award Management (SAM)</li> <li>3. Find the NAICS Codes for Your Company</li> </ol> <p><b>Items Needed for Registration</b>            Below are some of the items that you will need in order to complete registration processes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Your <u>NAICS</u> codes )</li> <li>2. Your Data Universal Numbering System (<u>DUNS</u>)</li> <li>3. Your Federal Tax Identification Number (TIN or <u>EIN</u>)</li> <li>4. Your Standard Industrial Classification (<u>SIC</u>) codes</li> <li>5. Product Service Code (PSC)</li> </ol>	<p><b>** THIS IS FREE OF CHARGE**.</b> If you are asked for money, verify your internet settings and that you are on a GOV website.</p> <p><a href="http://www.dnb.com/get-a-duns-number.html">http://www.dnb.com/get-a-duns-number.html</a></p> <p><b>System for Award Management</b>  <a href="http://www.SAM.GOV">www.SAM.GOV</a>  <a href="https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/">https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/</a></p> <p><b>NAICS</b> (what your company does/ Size standard) <a href="http://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/sssd/naics/naicsrch">http://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/sssd/naics/naicsrch</a></p> <p><b>PCS</b> (product/service you provide) <a href="http://www.outreachsystems.com/resources/tables/pcs/">http://www.outreachsystems.com/resources/tables/pcs/</a></p>



# Personnel

Here are the personnel actions for NRCS New Mexico since January 2014:

## New NRCS NM Employees

**Chris Hamilton**, State Wildlife Biologist, GS-0458-12 in Albuquerque, effective 6/29/14; Reinstatement from NRCS NHQ

**Mark Alford**, South Area Program Specialist, GS-0457-12 in Las Cruces effective 6/29/14; Promotion from NRCS LA

**Monte Topmiller**, Area Rangeland Management Specialist, GS-0454-11 in Silver City, effective 7/13/14; Reassignment from Forest Service

**Jessica Yates**, Pathways Student Intern (Range), GS-0499-03, Grants, effective 6/01/2014; New Employee

**Hannah Stevens**, Pathways Student Intern (Range), GS-0499-03, Tucumcari, effective 6/1/2014; New Employee

**William Volf**, State Archaeologist, GS-0193-12, Albuquerque, effective 7/13/14; Promotion from NRCS NM

**Treva Henio**, Rangeland Management Specialist, GS-0454-07/09 in Deming, effective 7/13/14; New Employee

## Promotions

**Kristi Justice**, Soil Conservationist, GS-0457-11 in Truth or Consequence, effective 3/23/14

**Robert Crane**, Soil Conservationist, GS-0457-11 in Roswell, effective 3/23/14

**Matthew Wiseman**, District Conservationist, GS-0457-12 in Deming, effective 3/23/14

**Brenda Simpson**, State Rangeland Management Specialist, GS-0454-12 in Albuquerque, effective 5/19/14

**Travis Vigil**, Soil Conservationist, GS-0457-11 in Mora, effective 6/1/14

**John Mike Jones**, Soil Conservationist, GS-0457-11 in Los Lunas, effective 6/1/14

## Reassignments

**Kenneth Branch**, District Conservationist, GS-0457-12 in Socorro, effective 3/23/14

**John Hartung**, Area Rangeland Management Specialist, GS-0454-11 in Alamogordo, effective 6/15/14

**Casey Spradley**, Soil Conservationist, GS-0457-09 in Aztec, effective 6/15/14

**Mary Sanchez**, Soil Conservationist, GS-0457-09 in

Las Cruces, effective 6/15/14

**Curtis Scott**, Soil Conservationist, GS-0457-09 in Clayton, effective 7/28/14

## Transfers

**Chanda Pettie** went to NRCS Colorado on 1/25/14

**Jed Dunn** went to NRCS South Dakota on 2/24/14

**Brenda Reed** went to Forest Service on 2/24/14

**Joseph Pruitt** went to Forest Service on 3/24/14

**Levi Irwin** went to NRCS Texas on 3/23/14

**Robert Self** went to NRCS Texas on 4/6/14

**Jose Pino** went to NRCS Arizona on 4/6/14

**Amber Riordan** went to NRCS MLRA AZ on 5/17/14

**Leonard Notah** went to BIA on 6/14/14

**Janice Gibbons** went to NRCS Oregon on 6/28/14

**Josh Miller** went to NRCS Idaho on 7/26/14

## Retirements

**Kenneth Walker** retired 12/28/2013

**George F. Chavez** retired 12/28/2013

**John Tunberg** retired 2/25/2014

**Scotty Savage** retired on 3/22/14

**Roger Ford** retired on 4/1/14

**Greg Fenchel** retired on 4/25/14

## Other Separations

**Brett Cockrell** separated on 6/28/14

**Melanie Neal** separated on 7/03/14

**Eric Carabajal** separated on 7/15/14

**Lorne Denetclaw** separated on 8/1/14

**Leo Pacheco** was separated on 1/12/14

## Don't forget your AgLearn requirements!

The following training requirements are due for all NRCS employees:

Implementation of Security and Situational Awareness Training – Dec. 5, 2014 (Note: this is an optional course for Partners/customers/volunteers)  
USDA Travel Card – All NRCS Employees – December 5, 2014.

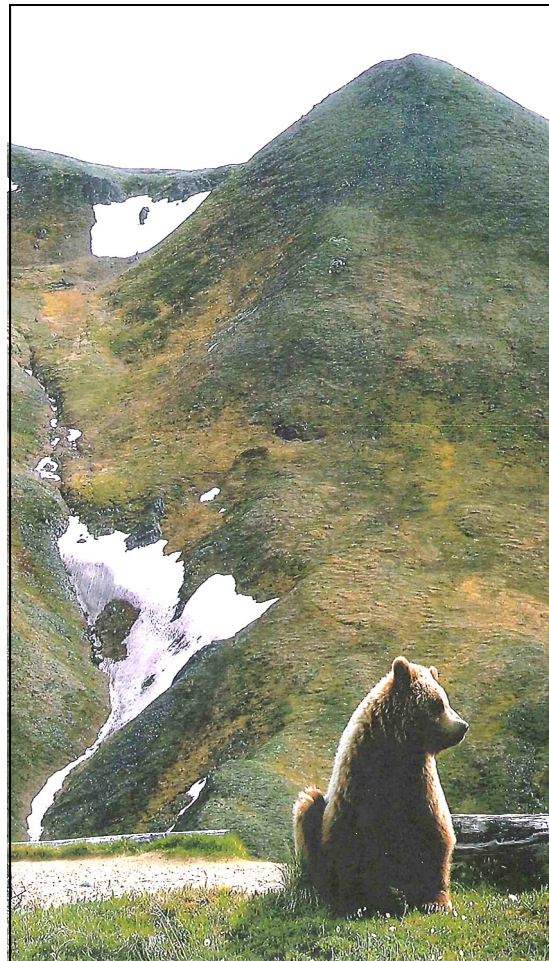
### See You at the 2014 State Fair!

Cheri Lujan (right), District Manager for the East Torrance Soil and Water Conservation District, explains to visitors to the NRCS and New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts' booths how the Ideum interactive information tables work during the 2013 New Mexico State Fair. The 2014 State Fair is open Sept. 10-21, 2014.

(NRCS Photo by Rey Adame)



**CFC Begins this Fall. More details in September!**



### The Bear Facts

Sean Lewis' photo of a lone Grizzly Bear in Alaska was chosen as Best Photo in the Diversity Day Photo Contest held in June during the Diversity Day celebration at the North Area meeting in Albuquerque. Lewis is a North Area Rangeland Management Specialist stationed out of the NRCS Roy Field Office.